Amendments to the Drawings:

The drawing sheet attached in connection with the above-identified application containing Figure 9 is being presented as a new formal drawing sheet to be substituted for the previously submitted drawing sheet. The drawing Figure 9 has been amended.

The specific change which has been made to Figure 9 is to provide a reference label 5 for the server device shown in that figure.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

No claims are currently being added or cancelled.

Claims 1, 8, 15-21 and 32-36 are currently being amended.

This amendment and reply amends claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-36 are pending in this application.

Drawing Objection:

In the Office Action, the drawings were objected to, because they fail to show server device 5 in Figure 9 as described in paragraph 0049 of the specification. Figure 9 has been corrected to add reference label 5 for the server device shown in that figure.

Title Objection:

In the Office Action, the title of the invention was objected to, as not being descriptive of the invention. By way of this amendment and reply, a more descriptive title is being submitted.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,161,105 to Kugimiya et al.; claims 3, 10, 17, 22, 27 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kugimiya et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,359,849 to Palmquist; claims 4, 11, 18, 23, 28 and 33 rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kugimiya et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,727,082 to Sugishima; claims 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 24, 26, 29, 31 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kugimiya et al. in view of U.S. Patent

No. 6,490,563 to Hon et al.; and claims 6, 13, 20, 25, 30 and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kugimiya et al. in view of Hone et al. and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,944,464 to Muranaga. These rejections are traversed with respect to the presently pending claims under rejection, for at least the reasons given below.

With respect to the rejection of independent claim 1, that claim now recites that <u>the notation is generated as a phonetic equivalent of the proper noun in the first language</u>. Kugimiya et al. describes a system for determining whether a sentence construction analysis is a proper noun with an acronym, whereby no notation is generated as a phonetic equivalent of a proper noun in a first language in the system of Kugimiya et al.

Therefore, presently pending independent claim 1, as well as presently pending independent claims 8 and 15 that have been amended in a similar manner, are not anticipated by Kugimiya et al.

In its rejection of claim 5 based in part on the teachings of Hon et al., the Office Action asserts that Hon et al. teaches a text to speech converter capable of reading text comprised of phonetic symbols corresponding to several foreign languages and outputs the text in to an output audio signal in the respective languages, and that Hon et al. also teaches a speech recognition module receiving input speech and converting it to text in the speech language. While these statements by themselves are not incorrect, Hon et al. merely describes that a text-to-speech module receives text and converts the text to an output signal providable to a speaker, so that a user can easily detect conversion errors (see column 3, lines 7-10 of Hon et al.), whereby Hon et al. does not teach or suggest recognizing a sound synthesized and outputted and automatically generating a notation to identify the proper noun. Rather, Hon et al. describes recognizing a sound synthesized and automatically generating that sound to the best extent it can, whereby Hon et al. does not teach or suggest generating a notation to identify a proper noun corresponding to a sound synthesized. The combination of Hon et al. and Kugimiya et al. would utilize a text-to-speech module in order to convert text to an output signal corresponding to a proper noun providable to a speaker, but whereby there is no teaching or suggestion to also provide a notation associated with the proper noun.

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Accordingly, dependent claim 5, as well as dependent claims 12 and 19 that recite similar features, patentably distinguish over the combined teachings of Kugimiya et al. and Hon et al.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing or a credit card payment form being unsigned, providing incorrect information resulting in a rejected credit card transaction, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.
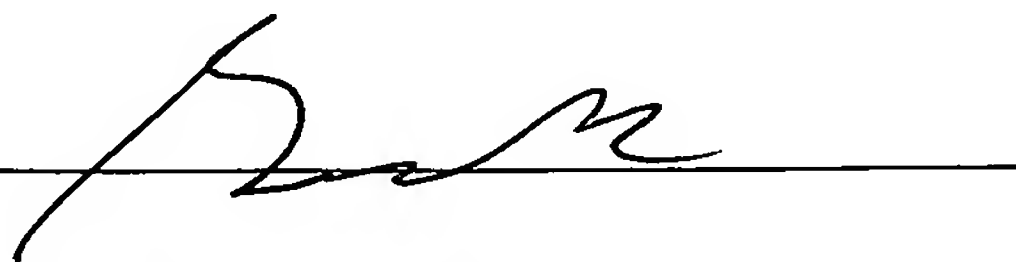
Respectfully submitted,

Date 8 / 25 / 2009   By _____

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